

Lead Dust Test Results Information for Renters

Lead Tipsheet #7



You have found lead dust in your home

Knowing that you have lead dust in your home is the first step to protecting yourself and your children. Dust from lead paint can be cleaned. This tipsheet will help you know what to do next. We encourage you to discuss this information with your property manager. You may also want to share tipsheet #6 "Lead Dust Test Results: Information for Property Managers" with your property manager.

Feel free to have them call us at 287-7666 if they have questions.

What do you need to know?

- Lead paint is common in homes built before 1950. Normal wear and tear is expected in a home. This can cause lead dust.
- Your lead dust test shows that you **may** have a lead dust problem.
- Your property manager may want to have a lead testing expert do more testing. Your cooperation in this will help identify the source of the lead dust.

Inspect your home with your property manager

- To identify and fix a lead dust source in an apartment, you will need to work with your property manager. They may be just as surprised as you are at these results.
- Inspect doors, windows, floors and stairways for worn, peeling or chipping paint.
- Your property manager can use the "Get the Lead Out: Take Advantage of Unit Turnover" tipsheet to learn how to reduce lead risks from damaged paint. This tipsheet can be found on our website at www.maine.gov/Healthyhomes.

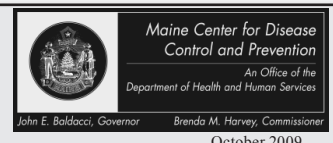
How to live safely with lead paint

- Do not dry sand or scrape paint. This can cause MORE lead dust.
- Tell your property manager if you find areas of worn or chipped paint on doors, windows, stairways or painted floors.
- See tipsheet #2 "Cleaning up Lead Dust." It describes how to wet clean to remove lead dust. Once you have cleaned in this way, clean your floors, windowsills, door trim and baseboards with a damp rag or mop about once a week.
- Take care of your apartment. Damage to walls, doors, floors and windows can cause lead dust.
- Your property manager must notify you if they are going to do work in your apartment. If the property manager is going to do maintenance, make sure your belongings are covered and away from the work area.
- Think about your job. Some jobs expose you to lead or lead dust. Don't bring lead dust into your home or car. If you remove old paint, remodel homes, buildings, tanks or bridges, solder pipe or work with scrap metal, you might be bringing lead dust home. Go to our web site below to read the factsheet "Don't Take Lead Home From Your Job!" to learn

If you need help: You can contact the attorney general's office to learn about renters rights. To learn more, visit: www.maine.gov/ag

Protect your family.

- Visit our web site: www.maine.gov/Healthyhomes
- Call for advice: 287-7666 • TTY: 800-492-0859



October 2009